

16 May 1973

Mr. Thomas B. Congdon, Jr.
Senior Editor
Doubleday & Company, Inc.
277 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear Tom:

Many thanks for your much appreciated letter of 9 May.

I see from your letterhead that Doubleday modestly bills itself "a communications corporation," but two things indicate that Doubleday's clout in the communications field is formidable and extends even to what used to be called the U.S. Postal Service. Your letter, dated 9 May, arrived in Great Falls on 10 May, a celerity that is itself virtually a record. Furthermore, the upper right hand corner of your envelope was virginal: no stamp, no cancellation, nothing. I've heard of franking privileges, but this is indeed impressive.

Your comments were informative and your suggested advice most helpful. I think I shall sit tight briefly to see if your associate David Harrop feels moved to write. If that quarter remains silent, I plan to sound out Donald Cutler, invoking your name as a door-opener. I have no concept of this game's protocol or ground rules, but suspect it is deemed bad form to communicate with a putative agent, then turn and deal directly with a possible publisher.

In any event, no matter what happens I am very grateful for your suggestions. Should you ever be in Washington, please give me a call [redacted]. I would be delighted to see you and have a fill in on the gap between Uncle Tom's Cabana and your present lofty pinnacle at Doubleday. Also, I was intrigued by your implied distinction between "commerical" and "quality," which looks like something best explored in a suitably lubricated discussion.

Regards as always.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

George A. Carver, Jr.

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